

Course Title: Asian American Psychology

Course Number: PSY 3998

Section Times/Days: TR 1:50–3:20

Instructor: Paul Vu, JD, PhD

**Course Description/Principal Topic:**

The objective of this course is to examine the personality and mental health issues of Asian Americans. Special emphasis is given to how minority group status, adaptation processes and bicultural development influence various aspects of psychological functioning. Other topics to be covered include acculturation and enculturation, stereotypes and racism; cultural values and behavioral norms; ethnic identity; relationships with other racial groups; gender and sexuality; and mental health and culturally-responsive treatment strategies.

**Student learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Learn content and theories on acculturation and enculturation of Asian Americans
- Demonstrate a familiarity with the history of more than one Asian American ethnic group before and after arrival in the United States, including the obstacles they have encountered and the contributions they made to the American society.
- Describe the diversity among and the complexity within Asian American ethnic groups
- Identify important similarities and differences between Asian Americans and non-Asians
- Identify how race and gender relations change alongside contemporary moments of globalization through a variety of topics including interracial marriages, refugees and welfare, the Tiger Mom, and affirmative actions
- Propose research questions and complete a research report motivated by course readings in APA style writing

**Course Work/Expectations:**

- The class takes on a seminar format and consists of lectures, films, class presentations, and discussion
- Evaluations of the course will be based on weekly reaction papers, class participation, a family heritage paper, and a final research project, which will be presented to the class

COURSE TITLE: Forensic Psychology

COURSE NUMBER: PSYCH 3998.01 (74246)

DAYS AND TIMES: M/W/F: 2PM -3PM

INSTRUCTOR: Sheila H. Forman, JD, PhD

---

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course introduces to you the major topics of the field of forensic psychology. These include: (1) the history of forensic psychology; (2) applying forensic psychology to civil proceedings such as divorce, domestic violence, child custody and personal injury; (3) applying psychology to criminal proceedings such as eyewitness testimony, competency, insanity

and violence assessments, and (4) the laws and ethics related to practicing forensic psychology. Four semester hours.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Course objectives or student learning objectives include (1) knowledge of the fundamental principles and methods of forensic psychology; (2) an understanding of the role forensic psychology plays in our society; (3) an understanding of the laws and ethics as they apply to the practice of forensic psychology; (4) an increase in the student's use, respect, and valuing of skeptical inquiry, critical thinking, and the scientific approach to understanding behavior; (4) an increase in curiosity about human (and non-human) behavior and experience; and (6) an appreciation of the role and impact of psychology on real-world issues.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

Students must have Junior or Senior status.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Forensic Psychology, 2nd Edition by Matthew T. Huss. Published by Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 978-1-118-80416-2 (eBook) ISBN: 978-1-118-55413-5 (Paperback)

COURSEWORK/EXPECTATIONS:

There will be two mid-term exams, a final exam and a mock trial. In addition, students will be expected to turn in a research paper covering a topic in forensic psychology and an issue paper related to the mock trial. The term paper will be presented to the class. Participation in the mock trial is required. Practice vignettes and other class presentations will be used to further the understanding of the course material

COURSE TITLE: Forensic Psychology

COURSE NUMBER: PSYCH 3998.04 (74245)

DAYS AND TIMES: Thursdays: 6:30pm – 9:30pm

INSTRUCTOR: Sheila H. Forman, JD, PhD

---

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course introduces to you the major topics of the field of forensic psychology. These include: (1) the history of forensic psychology; (2) applying forensic psychology to civil proceedings such as divorce, domestic violence, child custody and personal injury; (3) applying psychology to criminal proceedings such as eyewitness testimony, competency, insanity and violence assessments, and (4) the laws and ethics related to practicing forensic psychology. Four semester hours.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Course objectives or student learning objectives include (1) knowledge of the fundamental principles and methods of forensic psychology; (2) an understanding of the role forensic psychology plays in our society; (3) an understanding of the laws and ethics as they apply to the practice of forensic psychology; (4) an increase in the student's use, respect, and valuing of skeptical inquiry, critical thinking, and the scientific approach to understanding behavior; (4) an increase in curiosity about human (and non-human) behavior and experience; and (6) an appreciation of the role and impact of psychology on real-world issues.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

Students must have Junior or Senior status.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Forensic Psychology, 2nd Edition by Matthew T. Huss. Published by Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 978-1-118-80416-2 (eBook) ISBN: 978-1-118-55413-5 (Paperback)

COURSEWORK/EXPECTATIONS:

There will be two mid-term exams, a final exam and a mock trial. In addition, students will be expected to turn in a research paper covering a topic in forensic psychology and an issue paper related to the mock trial. The term paper will be presented to the class. Participation in the mock trial is required. Practice vignettes and other class presentations will be used to further the understanding of the course material.

Course Title: Psychology of Marriage

Course Number: Psychology 3998.05

Section/Times/Days: 05, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Wednesday

Instructor: Mary Katherine Seabrook-Derrington, Ph. D.

Course Description:

This course is specifically designed to introduce students to psychological theories and current research relating to the study of marriage. This class will focus on a large range of topics including attraction, establishing intimate dating relationships, selecting a life partner, getting married, communication, power, and conflict in marriage, becoming a parent, marital success, marital difficulties and divorce, remarriage and stepfamilies, intimacy in late adulthood, family diversity, gender roles, and sexuality.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will develop a comprehensive understanding of contemporary theories, research, and topics in the study of relationships, marriage, and family.
2. Students will be able to critically evaluate current research in the psychological study of marriage and family.
3. Students will engage in self-reflection regarding their own views and values relating to relationships, marriage, and family.
4. Students will demonstrate an ability to apply acquired knowledge about relationships and marriage to various characters in film.
5. Students will learn how psychological theories and research about relationships and marriage relate to their lives and to the world around them.

Prerequisites/Recommended Background:

Junior or Senior Standing, Grade of C or higher in Psychology 1000

Required Text:

Lauer, R. & Lauer, J. (2019). *Marriage and Family: The Quest for Intimacy* (9th ed.). New York: McGraw Hill.

Course Work/Expectations:

Class attendance and participation

3 multiple choice exams

1 research summary (approximately 3-4 pages in length)

1 film analysis

1 documentary analysis

Spring 2021

Psychology Department

Course Descriptions

2 short reflection papers